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(54) Title: CELL DEATH PROTEIN

(57) Abstract

Disclosed is a protein, designated RIP, which contains a death domain at its carboxy terminus and a kinase domain at its amino terminus. RIP interacts with the Fas/APO-1 intracellular domain and the TNFR1 intracellular domain. When expressed in transformed host cells, recombinant RIP promotes apoptosis. Also disclosed are DNA molecules encoding RIP, anti-RIP antibodies, and screening methods for discovering inhibitors of RIP-dependent apoptosis.

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CELL DEATH PROTEIN

- 1 -

Field of the Invention

This invention relates to recombinant DNA,

5 proteins encoded by recombinant DNA, and screening
methods for discovery of compounds with pharmacological
activity.

Background of the Invention

Regulated (or "programmed") cell death is 10 essential for the orderly development of metazoan organisms and is crucial to the proper functioning of the immune system in higher vertebrates (Wyllie et al., Int. Rev. Cytol. 68:251-306, 1980). The most common morphologic expression of programmed cell death is 15 apoptosis, characterized by cell shrinkage, zeiosis, or blebbing, of the plasma membrane, and nuclear collapse and fragmentation of the nuclear chromatin, at intranucleosomal sites, due to activation of an endogenous nuclease (Clement et al., J. Exp. Med. 20 180:557, 1994). Apoptosis is involved in morphological development, precise regulation of cell numbers, and as a defense mechanism to remove unwanted, and potentially dangerous cells, such as self-reactive lymphocytes, cells infected by viruses, and tumor cells. See, e.g., 25 Steller, Science 267:1445, 1995; Thompson, Science 267:1456, 1995. Diseases associated with increased apoptosis include AIDS, neurodegenerative disorders (e.g., Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, retinitis pigmentosa), 30 aplastic anemia, ischemic injury (e.g., myocardial

An important mediator of immunologically relevant cell death is the Fas antigen/APO-1 (also known as CD95)
35 ("Fas/APO-1"), originally identified as the target of

infarction, stroke, reperfusion injury), and toxin-

induced (e.g., alcohol induced) liver disease.

- 2 -

monoclonal antibodies that could kill multiple cell types (Trauth et al., Science 245:301, 1989; Yonehara et al., J. Exp. Med., 169:1747, 1989). Cloning of cDNA, followed by sequence analysis (Itoh et al., Cell 66:233, 1991; 5 Watanabe-Fukanaga et al., J. Immunol. 148:1274, 1992a; Oehm et al., J. Biol. Chem. 267:10709, 1992) showed Fas/APO-1 to be a member of a family of transmembrane receptors that includes the low affinity nerve growth factor ("NGF") receptor, the tumor necrosis factor 10 receptors ("TNFR1," "TNFR2"), and a variety of immune cell receptors including CD40, OX40, CD40, CD27, and 4-1BB (see, Smith et al., Cell 76:959, 1994). In addition to Fas/APO-1, several members of this family have been shown to regulate or induce cell death, e.g., p55 TNFR 15 (TNFR1) Tartaglia et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 88:9292, 1991; Tartaglia et al., Cell 73:213, 1993b) and p75 TNFR (TNFR2) (Heller et al., Cell 70:47, 1992; Heller et al., Cell 73:216, 1993; Clement and Stamenkovic, J. Exp. Med. 180:557, 1994).

Disruption of Fas/APO-1 expression or function in 20 lymphoproliferation ("lpr") mutant mice leads to a progressive lymphadenopathy and an autoimmune syndrome resembling human systemic lupus erythematosis (Watanabe-Fukunaga et al., Nature 356:314, 1992b). The residual 25 cytotoxic activity of T-cells derived from perforin deficient mice is also dependent on the presence of at least one wild type allele of the lpr locus (Kagi et al., Science 265:528, 1994; Kojima et al., Immunity 1:357, 1994; Lowin et al., Nature 370:650, 1994). Thus the 30 ability of Fas/APO-1 to induce cell death is important for the maintenance of at least two immunologic processes in vivo: peripheral tolerance to self (Singer and Abbas, Immunity 1:365, 1994; Crispe, Immunity 1:347, 1994), and calcium-independent T-cell cytotoxicity (Henkart, 35 Immunity 1:343, 1994).

The mechanism by which Fas/APO-1 induces cell death is unknown, but it requires multivalent crosslinking of the receptor (Dhein et al., J. Immunol. 149:3166, 1992) and is facilitated by concurrent inhibition of RNA or protein synthesis in some cell types. Other factors have been reported to modulate Fas/APO-1 activity (Klas et al., Int. Immunol. 5:625, 1993), and, under certain circumstances, Fas is capable of signaling activation rather than death (Alderson et al., J. Exp. Med. 178:2231, 1993). Anti-Fas antibodies and TNF are both capable of signaling cell death in vitro with similar kinetics (Yonehara et al., (supra); Itoh and Nagata, J. Biol. Chem. 268:10932, 1993), and among members of the NGF/TNF receptor family, Fas/APO-1 and TNFR1 share the most significant cytoplasmic homology.

Fas/APO-1 contains sequences required for the cell death response (Itoh and Nagata (supra) 1993). It has been proposed that a "death domain" contained in a region of similarity between Fas/APO-1 and TNFR1 is essential for the initiation of apoptosis by both molecules, perhaps through an interaction with other intracellular proteins (Tartaglia et al., Cell 74:845, 1993).

Summary of the Invention

We have discovered a protein, designated RIP (for Receptor Interacting Protein), which contains a death domain at its carboxy terminus and a kinase domain at its amino terminus. We have further discovered that RIP interacts with the Fas/APO-1 intracellular domain.

Moreover, RIP overexpression in eukaryotic cells leads to apoptosis. The ability of RIP to associate with the Fas/APO-1 intracellular domain, and to promote apoptosis, indicates that it is an important element in the signal transduction machinery mediating programmed cell death.

Accordingly, the invention features an RIP, 35 comprising a death domain in its carboxy terminal region

- 4 -

and a kinase domain in its amino terminal region, said RIP being capable of interacting with cellular factors such as the Fas/APO-1 intracellular domain, or the TNFR1 intracellular domain, and said RIP being capable of promoting apoptosis in a eukaryotic cell. The invention also features RIP fragments, e.g., the RIP death domain, capable of interacting with one or more cellular factors and capable of promoting apoptosis.

The invention also features an isolated
recombinant DNA molecule encoding an RIP, or encoding a
fragment thereof (e.g., the RIP death domain) and a host
cell transformed with the recombinant DNA molecule. The
transformed host cell is used to express recombinant RIP.

The invention also features anti-RIP antibodies,

which are useful as medical diagnostic reagents, as
affinity chromatography reagents for isolation of RIP,
and as analytical scale laboratory reagents for use in
research on the physiology and cell biology of apoptosis.

The invention also features screening assays to identify inhibitors of in vivo binding interactions mediated by the RIP death domain. Isolated RIP, recombinant RIP, or a binding domain thereof, is an essential component of the screening assays of this invention.

The invention also features screening assays to identify inducers of RIP expression and resulting apoptosis.

The invention also features methods of producing, for introduction into a patient undergoing gene therapy, cells that can be induced to undergo apoptosis upon administration of an exogenous agent to the patient.

As used herein, the term "Act-Fas" means a transcriptional activator fusion protein expressed by a library isolate, wherein the activator is fused to a 35 Fas/APO-1 sequence.

- 5 -

As used herein, the term "Act-RIP" means a transcriptional activator fusion protein expressed by a library isolate, wherein the activator is fused to an RIP sequence.

As used herein, the term "apoptosis" means nonnecrotic cell death that takes place in metazoan animal
cells following activation of an intrinsic cell suicide
program. Apoptosis is a normal process in the
development and homeostasis of metazoan animals.

Apoptosis involves characteristic morphological and
biochemical changes, including cell shrinkage, zeiosis,
or blebbing, of the plasma membrane, and nuclear collapse
and fragmentation of the nuclear chromatin, at
intranucleosomal sites, due to activation of an
endogenous nuclease.

As used herein, the term "death domain" of RIP means the 98 C-terminal amino acid residues of RIP, which display sequence relatedness to an approximately 90-amino acid residue C-terminal region in Fas/APO-1 and TNFR1.

As used herein, the term "interacting" means specifically associating as a result of 3-dimensional structure; specific non-covalent binding.

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As used herein, the term "kinase domain" of RIP means the amino terminal region of RIP (i.e., from a few residues after the N-terminal methionine residue to approximately residue number 300), which has sequence relatedness to known tyrosine kinases and serine/threonine kinases.

Other features and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description of the preferred embodiments thereof, and from the claims.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Fig. 1 is a graph summarizing quantitative β galactosidase assay results. Three colonies from each
35 Act-RIP/LexA-fusion protein pair were used to inoculate a

- 6 -

galactose-containing liquid culture. The β -galactosidase activity of lysates prepared from each culture was measured and normalized to the total protein concentration of the lysate. 5 units (nmoles/min/mg protein) represents the limit of detection of β -galactosidase activity in this system.

Fig. 2 is a set of genetic maps comparing RIP cDNAs. The inserts of clones isolated from a mouse thymus cDNA library are symbolized as lines above a bar diagram of the composite sequence, which depicts the regions encoding the kinase domain (hatched box), the death domain (black box), and a region of unknown function predicted to have high α-helical content (unshaded). Also shown is the region of human RIP that was used as a probe to isolate murine cDNAs. The original human RIP isolate encompassed sequences encoding the death domain and about 100 residues upstream.

Fig. 3 is the deduced complete amino acid sequence of murine RIP and a deduced partial human RIP amino acid sequence.

- (B) Deduced polypeptide sequence. The mouse sequence consists of a contiguous open reading frame proceeding from a translational initiation consensus. The human sequence predicted from a cDNA fragment is shown below the mouse; identical residues are indicated by a dash, and gaps indicated by a period. The conserved consensus sequences for casein kinase II (S-X-X-E) and cAMP- or cGMP-dependent protein kinase (R-X-X-S) are overlined.
- Fig. 4 is the amino acid sequence of the RIP Death Domain. Sequence alignment of the RIP C-terminus with the death domains and carboxyl termini of Fas/APO-1 and TNFR1. Gaps are indicated by dashes. Consensus residues conserved in all six sequences are capitalized, whereas positions at which a charge-conserved residue is found in

- 7 -

1/6 sequences are shown in lower case. Noteworthy charge conservations are bolded. The regions denoted A and B represent two portions of the Fas/APO-1 cytoplasmic domain completely conserved between mouse and human.

<u>Detailed Description</u>

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The present invention provides a novel recombinant protein, designated RIP, and DNA encoding the protein. RIP contains an amino-terminal kinase domain and a carboxy-terminal death domain, through which RIP associates with the Fas/APO-1 intracellular domain, and to a lesser extent, the TNFR1 intracellular domain. RIP appears to be an apoptosis-inducing nonreceptor kinase. Accordingly, RIP appears to be an important element in the signal transduction pathway mediating programmed cell death.

Various diseases, including AIDS, neurodegenerative disorders (e.g., Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, retinitis pigmentosa), aplastic anemia, ischemic injury 20 (e.g., myocardial infarction, stroke, reperfusion injury), and toxin-induced (e.g., alcohol induced) liver disease, involve abnormal increases in apoptosis. A specific inhibitor of an essential step in the biochemical machinery that mediates apoptosis is needed. 25 Such an inhibitor would be a drug candidate for therapeutic use against apoptosis-associated diseases. Because RIP interaction with (i.e., binding to) intracellular factors appears to be an essential step in triggering apoptosis, inhibitors of RIP binding to 30 intracellular apoptosis factors, e.g., Fas/APO-1 or TNFR1, are potential drug candidates. RIP (or a fragment thereof) is an essential component in any screening method for discovery of such RIP binding inhibitors.

RIP inhibitor screening meth ds, including cell-35 free methods and cellular methods, can be used in the

- 8 -

practice of this invention. Cellular screening methods within the scope of this invention can involve transient expression vectors or stable transformation. Various RIP inhibitor screening protocols can be designed, according to well-known principles, by one of ordinary skill in the art, once RIP and RIP-encoding DNA are in hand, by virtue of the present invention.

Cell-free screening methods for inhibitors of RIP death domain-mediated binding involve the use of isolated RIP and an RIP interaction partner, e.g., isolated Fas/APO-1 protein, TNFR1, or a polypeptide comprising the appropriate binding domain of one of these proteins. Soluble forms of RIP and RIP interaction partners can be utilized in cell free RIP inhibitor screening protocols.

15 Preferably, however, the cell-free RIP inhibitor screening protocol involves an RIP interaction partner inserted into a biological membrane. Membrane-inserted fusion protein forms of Fas/APO-1, can be produced, for example, using known sequences, according to the methods of Clement et al. (supra).

Preferably, RIP inhibitor screening is carried out in a cellular system, using a reporter strain of cultured mammalian cells, transformed with one or more vectors encoding RIP, and other assay components, as necessary.

25 Preferably, an RIP-encoding sequence is cloned into a recombinant DNA vector, where it is expressed under the control of an inducible promoter, e.g., a heat shock promoter. See, e.g., Wurm et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 83:5414, 1986. Following induction of RIP

30 expression, Cell death is measured in experimental treatments involving the presence of an inhibitor candidate, and in appropriate positive and negative controls. Various assays for cell death are known in the art, including the neutral red uptake method (Wallach, J. Immunol. 132:2464, 1984), the crystal vi let method (see,

e.g., Itoh et al., supra), or microscopic inspection of cells for visual signs of apoptosis.

Because overexpression of RIP can be used to induce apoptotic cell death, RIP is useful as a tool in 5 gene therapy in at least two different ways: (1) to control the number of cells bearing a specific gene; and (2) to act as an anti-tumor agent in forms of cancer therapy that are dependent on the delivery of a lethal gene to neoplastic cells. In both applications, overexpression of RIP to cause apoptotic cell death is preferable to approaches employing death-inducing genes that result in in vivo generation of toxic agents or that interfere with cell cycle progression.

Cell ablation through RIP expression is
advantageous because apoptotic death affects both
mitotically active and mitotically quiescent cells. In
contrast, chemotherapeutic agents and many gene therapybased treatments for tumors require the target cell to be
replicating in order for the treatment to be effective.

RIP genes used in gene therapy are preferably 20 under the control of an exogenously regulatable promoter. An exogenously regulatable promoter is a promoter that can be induced by a specific set of environmental conditions, such as the increase in the concentration of 25 a specific inducer. Examples of exogenously regulatable promoters and inducing conditions include: induction of a metallothionein promoter by zinc ions (Makarove et al., Nucleic Acids Res. 22:1504-1505, 1994), removal of tetracycline, thereby activating a synthetic promoter 30 based on the action of a tetracycline repressor-VP16 chimera (Gossen et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 89:5547-5551, 1992), addition of ecdysone (Christopherson et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 89:6314-6318, 1992), or the synthetic progesterone antagonist mifepristone

- 10 -

(Wang et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 91:8180-8184, 1994).

The RIP-encoding DNA of this invention enables one of ordinary skill in the art to produce anti-RIP 5 antibodies. The RIP-encoding DNA is used to construct a vector encoding a fusion protein comprising an RIP moiety and an isolation-facilitating moiety, i.e., a moiety that can be readily isolated from contaminating proteins in an extract from a host cell used to express the fusion 10 protein. A preferred isolation-facilitating moiety is maltose binding protein. DNA encoding maltose binding protein is commercially available. A binding reagent specific for the isolation-facilitating moiety is used for convenient and efficient isolation of the RIP fusion 15 protein. For example, amylose chromatography is preferred for isolation of a fusion protein comprising maltose binding protein moiety. Following isolation, the RIP fusion protein is used to produce RIP-specific antibodies (polyclonal or monoclonal), according to 20 standard methods, described, for example, by Harlow et al., (Antibodies - A Laboratory Manual, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, 1988).

The anti-RIP antibodies of the invention have several uses. For example, they may be used as reagents for preparation of affinity chromatography media. Once the anti-RIP antibodies of this invention are in hand, preparation of RIP affinity chromatography media can be carried out according to conventional methods (see, e.g., Harlow et al., supra), using commercially available reagents. The RIP-specific affinity chromatography media can be used to isolate full-length RIP from natural sources or from host cells transformed with recombinant DNA encoding RIP.

The anti-RIP antibodies of the invention are also useful as analytical-scale laboratory reagents for

- 11 -

research on the physiology and cell biology of apoptosis. For example, immunohistochemical techniques, based on anti-RIP monoclonal antibodies are likely to be valuable tools for embryologists seeking ways to observe the rate and/or distribution of apoptosis in the normal morphological development of metazoan animals.

The anti-RIP antibodies of the invention are also useful as diagnostic immunoassay reagents for measuring RIP levels in tissue samples from patients suspected of having an apoptosis-related disease or abnormality. Information on RIP levels in selected cells or tissues is a useful diagnostic or prognostic indicator in any situation where the rate of programmed cell death is important. The type of tissue sampled for the diagnostic test will vary, depending on the signs and symptoms of the patient and the suspected disease or abnormality.

If the tissue sample is highly homogenous with respect to cell type, it may be preferable to carry out the RIP immunoassay on an extract from a homogenate.

20 Alternatively, it may be preferable to use an immunohistochemical assay involving anti-RIP antibodies. An immunohistochemical assay is preferable when the tissue sample is heterogenous with respect to cell type. An immunohistochemical assay will yield information on the distribution of differing RIP levels in a cross section of tissue, or differing RIP levels in various types of blood cells in a blood sample.

Although inhibitors of RIP binding to intracellular apoptosis factors would be expected to have therapeutic utility only for disease states involving increased apoptosis, information on the level of RIP in a tissue sample would have diagnostic/prognostic utility for any apoptosis-related disease, regardless of whether apoptosis was increased or decreased in that disease.

35 Examples of diseases associated with decreased apoptosis

include cancer (in particular, follicular lymphomas,
 carcinomas with p53 mutations, hormone-dependent tumors,
 e.g., breast cancer, prostate cancer, ovarian cancer),
 autoimmune disorders (e.g., systemic lupus erythematosus,
 immune-mediated glomerulonephritis), viral infections,
 herpes viruses, poxviruses, adenoviruses).

The anti-RIP antibodies of the present invention can be used in various diagnostic immunoassay formats known in the art. Exemplary immunoassay formats are competitive radioimmunoassay, ELISA, Western blot analysis and microcapillary devices comprising immobilized antibody. See, e.g., Dafforn et al., Clin. Chem. 36:1312, 1990; Li et al., Anal. Biochem. 166:276, 1987; Zuk et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,435,504; Zuk et al., Clin. Chem. 31:1144, 1985; Tom et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,366,241; and Clark, PCT published application WO 93/03176.

The RIP-encoding DNA of this invention can be used as an in situ hybridization reagent to assess
transcription of RIP genes and observe RIP RNA processing, for diagnostic purposes or research purposes.

The RIP-encoding DNA of this invention can be obtained by screening a transcriptional activator fusion library from the species of interest, by means of a protein interaction system, as was done in the original work on this invention, and which is described in detail, below. Preferably, however, RIP-encoding DNA is obtained through a more direct approach, using nucleotide sequences or amino acid sequence information provided herein.

A general method for cloning a full length human RIP cDNA involves screening a human cDNA library (randomly primed from any tissue) with a probe derived from the 5' region f the murine RIP coding sequence,

- 13 -

using a low stringency procedure similar to that described under the "cDNA Cloning" heading, below.

A wide variety of host/expression vector combinations can be employed for expressing RIP-encoding DNA of this invention. The expression of RIP-encoding DNA in a cellular screening assay is preferably in a eukaryotic cell, under the control of eukaryotic expression control sequences. More preferably, the eukaryotic cell is a cultured mammalian cell. If the expression of recombinant RIP-encoding DNA is merely for the production of isolated recombinant RIP, however, a prokaryotic host/expression vector system or a eukaryotic host/expression system can be used.

In the studies leading to the present 15 invention, a yeast two-hybrid screen of a human T-cell cDNA library identified two proteins capable of interacting with the intracellular domain of Fas/APO-1: Fas/APO-1 itself and a novel protein, RIP, containing a death domain and a kinase domain. Neither protein 20 interacts with a humanized variant of the murine 1prcg allele, which confers much the same phenotype on affected mice as does the original lpr allele (Matsuzawa et al., 1990). The finding that the intracellular domain of the lprcg variant is incapable of interacting with the wild 25 type Fas/APO-1 cytoplasmic domain in yeast suggests that oligomerization of Fas/APO-1 mediated by cytoplasmic sequences may be a prerequisite for activity. However it has not been established whether oligomerization of Fas/APO-1 is necessary for interaction with RIP, or 30 whether the same subdomain exploited for oligomerization is also required for heteromeric association with RIP. The discovery of the Fas-Fas interaction in a library screen is consistent with a recent demonstration that TNFR1 and Fas/APO-1 are capable of both self- and cross-35 association in yeast (Boldin et al., J. Bi 1. Chem.

- 14 -

270:387, 1995). The death domain probably mediates such interactions, because work on this invention indicates that RIP can also associate with the intracellular domain of TNFR1 (as well as the intracellular domain of Fas/APO-51).

RIP mRNA is expressed at low levels in all tissues. A pattern of widespread expression has also been observed for Fas/APO-1. In contrast to RIP, however, Fas/APO-1 mRNA is found at higher levels in thymus, liver, lung, and heart. Like Fas/APO-1 mRNA, RIP mRNA is induced in splenocytes after activation with ConA. Although a requirement for RIP in Fas-mediated killing has not been established, coordinate induction of Fas/APO-1 and RIP may contribute to increased susceptibility of T-cells to Fas-mediated cell death following activation.

The N-terminus of RIP contains a kinase domain that has features of both Ser/Thr and Tyr kinases. the two interacting loops that appear to control 20 hydroxyamino acid recognition (Hubbard et al., Nature 372:746, 1994; Taylor et al., Structure 2:345, 1994), RIP closely resembles a Ser/Thr kinase. In particular, it lacks the Ala-X-Arg or Arg-X-Ala motif in the catalytic loop (subdomain VI) and the Pro-X-X-Trip motif in the P+1 25 loop (subdomain VIII), both of which are found in all Tyr kinases (see, e.g., Hanks et al., in Meth. Enzymol. 200, Academic Press, at pp. 38-62, 1991). Other support for the possibility that RIP has either mixed catalytic specificity or Tyr kinase-like regulation with Ser/Thr 30 specificity, comes from the finding that, among known sequences, RIP shows the greatest overall primary sequence similarity to murine lck, a tyrosine kinase of the src family. The relatedness to tyrosine kinases is especially apparent among the framework residues outside 35 the active site which make up the C-terminal, alpha

helic-rich substrate-binding lobe. For example, RIP has a tryptophan at position 269 which is present in all Tyr kinases analyzed by Hanks et al. (Science 241:42, 1988), but absent from all Ser/Thr kinases examined, except Mos. 5 The presence of structural motifs from both Tyr and Ser/Thr kinases has also been noted for the soybean kinase GmPK6 (Feng et al., Biochim. Biophys Acta 1172:200, 1993), which shows high global similarity to RIP. Although the exact role of protein kinases in 10 Fas/APO-1 mediated apoptosis is unknown, it appears that the participation of at least one protein tyrosine kinase is required.

In work on this invention, overexpression of RIP resulted in the induction of a cell death program 15 morphologically indistinguishable from apoptosis. Deletion of the C-terminal region of RIP spanning the segment of death domain homology eliminated the apoptotic response, but deletion of the kinase domain did not entirely quench activity.

Although the evidence that RIP binds to Fas/APO-1 in yeast favors a model in which RIP acts directly downstream of Fas/APO-1 in a death pathway, it is also possible that RIP has other actions. example, the elevation of RIP mRNA in activated T-cells 25 suggests that RIP may be involved in the apoptosis provoked by growth factor deprivation.

Experimental Information

RIP CDNAs

20

A cDNA library screen for proteins that 30 interact with the intracellular domain of Fas/APO-1 was conducted by using a variation of the yeast interaction system described by Gyuris et al. (Cell 75:791, 1993). The assay system involved a yeast reporter strain containing two separate reporter genes, S. cerevisiae

- 16 -

leu-2 and E. coli β -galactosidase coding sequences under the control of a synthetic promoter which contain a Lex-A binding site, and which required a trans-acting transcriptional activator in order for transcription to 5 occur. A cDNA segment comprising most of the cytoplasmic domain of human Fas/APO-1 (residues 192 to 329 of the Fas precursor) was fused to the 3' end of the coding region for the bacterial repressor LexA, in a yeast expression plasmid, which was used to transform the reporter strain. 10 This Fas/LexA construct encoded a transcriptionally inert fusion protein ("the bait"), capable of specific binding at the LexA binding site in the reporter gene promoters, by virtue of the LexA moiety. The bait-expressing reporter strain was transformed with a transcriptional 15 activator fusion protein library prepared from mRNA isolated from the Jurkat (human T-cell leukemia) cell line, which is known to undergo apoptosis when subjected to treatment with anti-Fas antibody. The transcriptional activator moiety of the library-encoded fusion proteins 20 lacked DNA binding activity. Any transcriptional activator fusion protein with the ability to bind to the Fas/APO-1 intracellular domain, however, would bring the transcriptional activator moiety into proximity with the reporter gene promoter, thereby resulting in 25 transcription of the reporter genes.

Transformants were plated on selective (leucine deficient) plates containing galactose, which induces the GAL1 promoter that directs transcription of the library insert. Leucine prototrophs were transferred to plates containing X-gal and galactose, and colonies giving a dark blue color reaction were recovered and analyzed further.

To test the specificity of the interaction between the candidate interaction partners and Fas/APO-1, 35 the library plasmids were reintroduced into a second

strain harboring a LexA-Fas fusion gene (LexA-lpr^{cg}) in which the Fas portion had been mutated by substitution of asparagine for valine at position 254 of the Fas/APO-1 precursor sequence. This mutation was expected to exhibit a molecular phenotype similar to that of the murine lpr^{cg} allele, which is formed by substitution of asparagine for isoleucine at the homologous position. None of the candidate plasmids showing evidence of strong interaction with LexA-Fas were capable of interacting with LexA-lpr^{cg} (Figure 1A; data not shown).

Restriction site and sequence analysis of the cDNA inserts of the candidate clones showed all to be incomplete cDNAs falling into only two classes. One of the inserts encoded the C-terminal residues 222 to 335 of the intracellular domain of Fas/APO-1 itself. The other encoded a protein, designated RIP, which had no overt relationship to previously described polypeptides.

The specificity of the interaction partners was further tested by using the library plasmids to transform yeast harboring expression plasmids encoding LexA fusions with intracellular domains of various cell surface receptors. Although no interaction was detected in most cases, weak interaction was detected following introduction of the yeast plasmid encoding Act-RIP into strains harboring LexA-TNFR1 intracellular domain. By contrast, no activity was seen when Act-RIP was introduced into strains harboring LexA-TNFR2 intracellular domain. Yeast transformed with Act-Fas displayed promoter activity in strains harboring LexA-Fas intracellular domain, but showed no activity in strains harboring any other LexA-intracellular domain.

To measure this effect more precisely, βgalactosidase assays were performed on lysates of yeast
harboring various pairs of LexA-intracellular domain and
35 Act-RIP. Lysates from yeast bearing LexA-Fas and Act-RIP

contained about 30 to 40 fold more β-galactosidase
activity than strains bearing Act-RIP and either LexAlpr^{cg} or LexA-TNFR2 (Fig. 1). Lysates prepared from yeast
harboring LexA-TNFR1 and Act-RIP expressed β5 galactosidase activity at about 10% of the level seen in
lysates prepared from yeast bearing LexA-Fas and Act-RIP
(Fig. 1).

one explanation for the failure to detect an interaction between Act-RIP and LexA-1pr^{cg} or LexA-TNFR2 could have been that the LexA fusion proteins were poorly expressed. To address this possibility, a portion of each lysate used to measure enzyme activity was subjected to gel electrophoresis and blot transfer, followed by detection with anti-LexA antiserum. LexA fusion proteins of the appropriate size were detected in each of the lysates and both the LexA-lpr^{cg} and LexA-TNFR2 fusion proteins were found to be more abundantly expressed than LexA-Fas or LexA-TNFR1 (data not shown), making it unlikely that failure to detect interaction in vivo could be attributed to degradation or inadequate synthesis of the LexA chimeras.

Cloning and Structure of Murine RIP

Because the RIP cDNA insert identified in the two hybrid screen did not encode an open reading frame

25 bearing a consensus translational initiation sequence, additional human cDNA libraries were screened by hybridization for a full length clone. Initially, none were identified, however, and several of the resulting isolates appeared to terminate at approximately the same

30 5' terminus, suggesting that secondary structure in the mRNA might have prevented extension of the cDNA by reverse transcriptase. (Subsequently, overlapping cDNA clones representing the entire human RIP coding sequence were obtained.) Alth ugh the largest clone spanned

35 approximately 1 kb of sequence, preliminary RNA blot

hybridizations revealed a transcript of approximately 4.2 kb expressed in cell lines of diverse provenance, including tumors of lymphoid, hepatic, renal, neuronal, cervical, intestinal, muscular and skeletal origin.

To isolate a full length murine RIP clone, the human RIP coding sequence was used to probe a mouse thymus cDNA library. Four distinct overlapping clones were identified, ranging in size from 1 kb to 2.4 kb, as shown in Fig. 2. Restriction analysis and sequencing revealed that one of these clones, III2, extended further 5' than the others. The 2.3 kb insert of III2 contains a 1968 nucleotide open reading frame beginning with a translational initiation consensus sequence and predicting a polypeptide of 656 amino acids (SEQ ID NO:15) with Mr of 74,000

(Fig. 3). The nucleotide sequence of a full-length murine RIP cDNA is (SEQ ID NO:14).

The amino terminal region of RIP bears an extended homology to protein kinases that begins a few 20 residues after the presumptive initiating methionine and extends to the vicinity of residue 300. Quantitative sequence comparisons based on a word match algorithm (Altshul et al., J. Mol. Biol. 215:403, 1990) predict that this domain is most similar overall to the tyrosine 25 subclass of protein kinases, with the highest relatedness seen to the mouse lck gene product (Marth et al., Cell 43:393, 1985). However in the key subdomains that discriminate most closely between tyrosine and serine/threonine substrate specificity, the HKDLKPEN 30 motif of the catalytic loop (kinase subdomain VI) and the GTLYYMAPE sequence of the P+1 loop (kinase subdomain VIII), RIP appears to match the serine/threonine family consensus (Hanks et al., in Methods in Enzymology vol. 200, (Hunter et al., eds.), Academic Press, pp. 38-62, 35 1988; Taylor et al.; supra).

The sequence predict d by one of the human cDNA fragments consists of 375 amino acids corresponding to the region just C-terminal to the kinase domain of murine RIP, and shares 67% sequence identity with the murine 5 sequence over this length. Within this portion, the first 270 amino acids following the kinase domain have no striking homology to other proteins, although a small subdomain within this portion is highly conserved between mouse and human proteins (residues 391 to 427 of the 10 murine sequence) and has a relatively high representation of Arg (R), Gln (Q) and Glu (E) (18/37 residues in both sequences). The sequence of this region is similar to portions of the trichohyalin family of hair structural proteins, which contain RQE-rich repeats that form highly 15 stabilized alpha helices (Lee et al., J. Biol. Chem. 268:12164, 1993).

Complete Human RIP Coding Sequence

25 RIP C-terminus Death Domain Homology

Subsequent to the cloning and sequencing of a full-length murine RIP cDNA (SEQ ID NO:14), a complete human RIP coding sequence was obtained from sequence analysis of multiple overlapping partial cDNAs. A complete human RIP coding sequence is (SEQ ID NO:16). The deduced amino acid sequence of a full-length human RIP is (SEQ ID NO:17).

The remaining 98 C-terminal amino acids share 87% sequence identity between mouse and human RIP, suggesting they subserve some regulatory function (Fig. 3). Comparable domains of approximately 90 residues close to the C-termini of Fas/APO-1 and TNFR1 have been shown to play a role in the transduction of apoptotic signals to receptive cells, and have been termed "death domains" for this reason (Tartaglia et al., Cell 74:845, 1993). Pairwise comparisons of th death domain

- 21 -

sequences aligned in Fig. 4 showed the highest relatedness between human RIP and human TNFR1 (59% similarity and 30% identity), which are significantly more similar than human Fas/APO-1 and human TNFR1 (42% similarity and 23% identity). The interspecies conservation of the RIP death domain (85% identity between mouse and human) exceeds that of the TNFR1 (68% identity) and Fas/APO-1 (49% identity) death domains. Constitutive and Inducible Expression of RIP mRNA

Preliminary RNA blot hybridization experiments 10 demonstrated the existence of an RNA species of approximately 3.8 kb in a variety of cell lines. precisely assess mRNA abundance in tissues a quantitative ribonuclease protection assay was employed. Use of a 15 labeled antisense RNA probe corresponding to the 3' terminus of the cDNA gave rise to a ribonuclease resistant species of the expected size in all adult tissues tested. An in vitro labeled RNA antisense to the mRNA for the ribosomal large subunit protein L32 was used 20 as an internal standard to allow normalization to the amount of RNA loaded in each lane. Analysis of the protected RNA showed that RIP mRNA levels varied by less than 2-3 fold between most tissues (not shown); lung showed the highest expression, whereas tongue showed the 25 least.

The possibility that RIP mRNA might be regulated as a consequence of activation in T-cells was also explored. Dissociated murine splenocytes were stimulated in vitro with the lectin concanavalin A and total RNA prepared at various times following addition of lectin was analyzed for the presence of RIP sequences by RNA blot analysis. Little or no RIP RNA could be detected in unstimulated splenocytes, but a single 3.6-3.8 kb species appeared in unfractionated splenocytes that had been exposed to lectin for 2 h or longer. Since

- 22 -

RIP mRNA is detectable by ribonuclease protection in the spleen as a whole, the inability to detect RIP mRNA in splenocytes treated with ConA for less than 2 h is probably due to the lower sensitivity of RNA blot analysis, although this discrepancy could also have resulted from RIP expression exclusively in the fibrous tissue of the spleen.

Immunodetection of RIP Produced In Vivo

To examine the distribution of RIP protein in vivo, a rabbit antiserum was prepared against a fusion protein consisting of the 250 C-terminal residues of murine RIP fused to E. coli maltose binding protein. The antiserum specificity was validated by immunoprecipitation of RIP synthesized in vitro.

- 15 Following in vitro transcription and translation of the RIP open reading frame, a single labeled product of approximately 74 kD was observed which could be specifically immunoprecipitated with the rabbit antiserum, but not with serum from unimmunized animals.
- 20 The specificity of the antiserum for RIP was also documented by its inability to immunoprecipitate an irrelevant protein (*P. pyralis* luciferase) similarly translated in vitro. Immunoprecipitation of a lysate of metabolically labeled NIH3T3 cells with the rabbit
- 25 antiserum revealed the presence of a single protein species with the same molecular mass as that revealed by in vitro translation of RIP.

Detection of RIP in Transiently Transfected BHK Cells

To determine whether RIP protein could have a

30 direct effect on cell viability, BHK cells grown on
coverslips were transiently transfected with a epitopetagged version of RIP (RIPmyc). Transfected cells were
reacted with anti-RIP antiserum or an anti-myc monoclonal
antibody. Weak expression was detected with both
35 antibodies. The pattern of immunoreactivity was

- 23 -

heterogene us, with both diffuse cytoplasmic as well as punctate perinuclear patterns observed. DNA staining with Hoechst 33258 showed that many of the RIP-expressing cells had apoptotic nuclei, a feature not seen when vector or Fas control expression plasmids were used. However, a number of RIP-expressing cells could be found that had normal-appearing nuclei; conversely, apoptotic cells having no detectable RIP staining were also seen.

The concordance of cell death and RIP

10 expression suggested the ability to detect RIPmyc protein might be compromised by the death of the cells in which it was being expressed. To test this, and the possible role of individual RIP domains in apoptosis, two additional epitope-tagged constructs were prepared: one

15 lacking C-terminal sequences, including the death domain (RIPmycAdeath), and one lacking ~ 200 amino acids in the kinase domain (RIPmycAkinase). Both deletion mutants showed greater immunoreactivity with anti-myc antibodies than the full length construct. Only RIPmycAkinase was detected by the anti-RIP antiserum, as expected from the deletion of its epitope from RIPmycAdeath.

RTP Overexpression Leads to Cell Death

death, we marked the transfected cells by co-transfection with β -galactosidase. Cells were transfected with pairs of expression plasmids encoding RIPmyc and β -galactosidase (Price et al., 1987) at a 1:3 ratio of β -gal plasmid to RIP plasmid. After histochemical detection of β -galactosidase activity, cells transfected with β -gal and RIPmyc expression plasmids were found to contain a large proportion of intensely staining, shrunken blue cells that exhibited membrane blebbing and loss of adherence. By contrast, transfection with β -gal plasmid, either alone or in combination with RIPmyc Δ death plasmid, had no adverse effect upon nuclear morphology

- 24 -

and resulted in a predominantly cytoplasmic βgalactosidase staining pattern. Co-transfection of β-gal
plasmid with RIPmycΔkinase likewise gave cytoplasmic
staining of healthy-appearing cells, although a number of
shrunken, blebbed cells were also seen.

To quantify these results, cells from three independent transfections were examined and the morphologically apoptotic blue cells enumerated as a fraction of total blue cells. Over 57 percent of blue 10 cells arising from co-transfection of RIPmyc and the β gal plasmid showed morphological changes consistent with apoptosis, whereas only 1-2 percent of blue cells that had been transfected with β -gal plasmid alone or in combination with RIPmycadeath exhibited such a phenotype. 15 However a consistent low frequency of apoptotic changes was seen in co-transfections involving RIPmycakinase, with almost 11 percent of the blue cells appearing to have undergone cell death. The fraction of cells showing morphological changes was positively correlated with the 20 ratio of RIPmyc or RIPmyc Akinase plasmid to β-gal plasmid, so that increasing RIP: β -gal plasmid ratios gave higher percentages of dead blue cells (data not shown). Plasmid Construction

The yeast interaction system was modified from
that described by Gyuris et al. (supra) by engineering
the LexA expression plasmid to remove an internal M1uI
site and to insert M1uI and NotI sites downstream from
the DNA portion encoding the C-terminus of the gene. The
resulting distal polylinker has the site sequence M1uIPmeI-NotI-EcoRI in the frame in which the M1uI site
encodes Thr and Arg (frame 1).

The DNA encoding receptor cytoplasmic tails were amplified by PCR from cDNA libraries and cloned as M1uI-NotI or BssHII-NotI fragments using the following oligonucleotide primers: Fas: 5'-CGCGGGACGC GTAAGGAAGT

ACAGAAAACA TGC-3' (SEQ ID NO:1) and 5'-CGCGGGGCGG

CCGCTCTAGA CCAAGCTTTG GATTTC-3' (SEQ ID NO:2); TNFR1: 5'

CGCGGGGCGC GCTACCAACG GTGGAAGTCC AAG-3' (SEQ ID NO:3) and
5' CGCGGGGCGG CCGCTGCCCG CAGGGGCGCA GCCTCA-3' (SEQ ID

NO:4); and, TNFR2: 5'-CGCGGGACGC GTAAGAAGCC CTTGTGCCTG

CAG-3' (SEQ ID NO:5) and 5'-CGCGGGGCGG CCGCTTTAAC

TGGGCTTCAT CCC AGC-3' (SEQ ID NO:6).

The Fas/APO-1 cytoplasmic domain used in the library screen diverges at the Glu located five residues prior to the C-terminus, and continues an additional 25 residues through vector sequences to the C-terminus. In all subsequent analyses, these residues were found not to contribute detectably to either Fas-Fas or Fas-RIP interaction.

point mutation was made by mutating the valine at position 254 of human Fas to asparagine, using the following oligonucleotides in a recombinant PCR reaction:

5'-CGAAAGAATG GTAACAATGAA GCC-3' (SEQ ID NO: 7), and
5'-GGCTTCATTG TTACCATTCTT TCG-3' (SEQ ID NO: 8).
In the resulting construct, residues 330 and 331 were
also converted from Glu and Ile to Gly and Asn,
respectively.

A myc-tagged version of RIP (RIPmyc) was made

by digesting RIP clone III2 with TfiI and ligating a

HindIII/TfiI adaptor to the 5' end and TfiI/NotI adaptor

containing the myc epitope and a stop codon to the 3'

end. The sense (#145) and antisense (#146)

oligonucleotides comprising the 3' adaptor were as

follows:

#145: 5'-ATTCGTGCCA GCCAGAGCGG CATGGAGCAG AAGCTCATCT
CAGAAGAAGA CCTCGCGTAA GC-3' (SEQ ID NO:9), and

#146: 5'-GGCCGCTTAC GCGAGGTCTT CTTCTGAGAT GAGCTTCTGC
TCCATGCCGC TCTGGCTGGC ACG-3' (SEQ ID NO:10).

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The resulting insert was cloned into the HindIII and NotI sites of pcDNA I (Invitrogen).

To make RIPmyc∆kinase, a PCR reaction was performed using a 5' RIP primer (#160: 5'-CCCAAGCTTG 5 TTGGAGATTC TGAGCAATC-3' (SEQ ID NO:11)) and an internal kinase domain primer (#161: 5'-CCCGATCTGC AGGTCATGTA AGTCGCACATGCC-3 (SEQ ID NO:12)). The resulting product was cloned into the HindIII and PstI sites of RIPmyc resulting in the deletion of RIP residues 132 to 323.

RIPmycldeath was made by PCR, using a T7 primer and a myc-tag-containing primer (#151: 5'-CCCCTCGAGT TAGAGGTCTT CTTCTGAGAT GAGCTTTTGC TCTTTCTTTA AACTTGCCAC-3' (SEQ ID NO: 13)). The amplified RIPmyc∆death sequence, lacking amino acids 309 to 656, was subcloned as a 15 HindIII/XhoI fragment into a pcDNA I. Myc tags were located at the C-terminus of all proteins, and thus detection of the myc epitope requires translation of the entire cloned sequence. The BAG retrovirus vector encoding β -galacto-sidase has been described (Price et 20 al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 84:156, 1987).

Yeast Strains and Library Screen

Yeast transformation with library DNA was performed according to the method of Schiestl and Gietz (Curr. Genet. 16:339, 1989). Recipient cells, 25 EGY48/pRB1840 (Gyuris et al, supra) bearing LexA-fusion protein plasmids, were grown overnight in YPAD medium to a density of approximately 107 cells/ml, then diluted in 100 ml of warmed YPAD to a density of 2x106 cells/ml and regrown to 107 cells/ml. The cells were harvested and 30 washed in water, resuspended in 1 ml water, transferred to a sterile microcentrifuge tube and pelleted. pellet was resuspended in 0.5 ml of 10mM Tris HCl (pH 7.5), 1 mM EDTA, 0.1 M Li acetate, (pH adjusted to 7.5 with acetic acid and passed through 0.2 micron filter). 35 50 μ l of the resulting suspension was mixed with 1 μ g of

transforming DNA and 50 μ g of single stranded salmon sperm DNA, after which 0.3 ml of a solution of 40% polyethylene glycol-4000 in Tris/EDTA/LiOAc was added and mixed thoroughly, followed by incubation at 30°C with agitation for 30 min. After a heat pulse at 42°C for 15 min, the cells were pelleted in a microcentrifuge and the pellets resuspended in 1 ml of Tris/EDTA, diluted and plated on selective medium. Library screening and recovery of plasmids was performed as described by Gyuris et al. (supra).

For assessing the interaction of RIP and Fas with other bait proteins, cells of the yeast strain EGY48/pSH18-34, containing eight copies of the LexA operator-lacZ reporter, were transformed with each of the four bait constructs and selected on Ura His glucose plates. These bait strains were subsequently used for transformation of the RIP or Fas library plasmids and plated on Ura His Trip Xgal plates containing either 2% glucose of 2% galactose/1% raffinose. The LexA-TNFR2 bait strain gave a weak blue color reaction when grown on galactose, indicating spontaneous transcriptional activation by the fusion protein.

8-Galactosidase Assays and Immunoblotting

Assays of crude extracts were carried out as
25 described (Rose et al., 1990). In brief, cells bearing
the appropriate bait and interaction plasmid were grown
to saturation overnight at 30°C in minimal Ura His Trip
medium with 2% glucose. The next day, cells were diluted
1:50 into medium containing 2% galactose and 2% raffinose
30 and allowed to grow overnight. Cells were spun and
resuspended in breaking buffer (100 mM Tris (pH 8), 20%
glycerol (v/v), 1 mM DTT). Half of each suspension was
transferred to a separate tube, and PMSF was added to a
final concentration of 10 mM. C lls were lysed by
35 vortexing with acid-washed beads, and the resulting

- 28 -

lysate was cleared by centrifugation. Enzyme activity was measured by incubating in Z buffer (Miller, Experiments in Molecular Genetics, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, 1972) with 0.67 mg/ml o-nitrophenyl-β-D-5 galactoside substrate. Reactions were stopped with 0.5 ml 1M Na₂CO₃ when an appropriate level of color had developed. The protein concentrations of the lysates were determined by Bradford assay. Units of β-galactosidase were calculated using the following 10 equation: specific activity (nmoles/min/mg)=(OD₄₂₀.378)/(time(min).vol extract(ml).concentration (mg/ml)).

Additional clones overlapping the primary RIP
isolate were sought in two libraries — an expression
library prepared in the CDM8 plasmid vector using mRNA
isolated from the human cytolytic T-cell line WH3, and
from a commercially available human leukocyte library in
lambda phage (Clontech; HL1169a). Both libraries were
screened by filter replica hybridization, using
radiolabeled probes derived from the insert isolated by
interaction screening, as well as from subsequent inserts
identified by hybridization.

To isolate murine RIP cDNA clones, 1.2 kb of

human RIP sequence was subcloned into two halves and each
fragment used to probe genomic DNA blots containing mouse
and human DNA to optimize conditions for cross-species
hydrization. A commercially available oligo(dT)-primed
mouse thymus cDNA library (Stratagene) from a (C57B1/6 X

CBA)F₁ mouse was plated out, and 10⁶ plaques were screened
using each of the human fragments on duplicate Genescreen
filters (DuPont). Probes were synthesized using the
random hexamer method Feinberg et al., Anal. Biochem.
132:6, 1983). Hybridization conditions were 5X SSPE, 10X

Denhardts, 2% SDS, 0.1 mg/ml herring sperm DNA at 55°C

overnight. Filters were washed in 2X SSC, 0.1% SDS at 55°c with several changes over 1 h. Plaque purified phage were isolated with three rounds of screening (Sambrook et al.; supra), and in vivo excision carried 5 out using Exassist phage and SOLR™ recipient cells` (Stratagene). Seven independent clones were isolated, and they fell into the four classes shown in Fig. 2. The coding sequence of RIP was obtained as a composite from the cDNA clones sequenced on both strands using Sequenase 10 T7 polymerase (U.S. Biochemical). Several nucleotide polymorphisms were detected between the multiple clones, only one of which resulted in an amino acid difference: a Thr to Ile at position 473. Sequence comparisons were done with Genetics Computer Group, Inc. or MegAlign 15 (DNAStar, Inc.) software using default parameters. RNAse Protections and RNA Blot Hybridization

Tissue RNA samples were prepared from wild type FVB mice (Taconic) by guanidinium thiocyanate lysis and centrifugation through a CsCl cushion (Chirgwin et al., 20 Biochemistry 18:5294, 1979). An antisense probe for RIP made from cDNA clone III1, linearized with SpeI, was synthesized using T7 polymerase with an in vitro transcription kit (Stratagene), with the addition of 20 μM cold rUTP and 100 μCi ³²P-UTP (New England Nuclear). 25 The ribosomal L32 probe was synthesized from an XbaIlinearized template at one tenth the specific activity of The use of L32 as an internal control for the RIP probe. RNA loading has been described elsewhere (Shen and Leder, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 89:8240, 1992). As expected, 30 the in vitro transcription products were slightly larger than the protected fragments of 525 and 279 nucleotides, respectively. After removal of the DNA template with DNAseI, probes were purified using an ultrafree-MC 30,000 retention filter (Millipore). A sample ($2x10^5$ cpm) of 35 the RIP probe and a sample of L32 (2x104 cpm) were mixed

with 10 μ g of RNA from each tissue or 50 μ g of tRNA and allowed to hybridize in PIPES buffer with 50% formamide overnight at 50°C. Following this incubation, unhybridized RNA was digested with RNAse A (40 μ g/ml) and 5 RNAse T₁ (1.3 μ g/ml) at 37°C for 15 min. Samples were extracted with phenol/chloroform once, ethanol precipitated, washed, and boiled for 3 min before loading on a 6% polyacrylamide gel. After electrophoresis, gels were dried and exposed and radioactivity was quantitated with the aid of a Molecular Dynamics Phosphorimager.

For measuring RIP in activated T-cells, spleens were removed from adult animals and dissociated using a stainless steel mesh. Cells (~107 per timepoint) were exposed to ConA (10 μ g/ml) for 0-4.5 h, and RNA prepared 15 as described above. Approximately 8 μ g of total RNA from each sample was loaded on a 0.9% agarose/4% formaldehyde gel, electrophoresed in 20 mM MOPS, 5 mM sodium acetate, 1 mM EDTA, and transferred to nylon filters (GeneScreen, DuPont) by capillary transfer (Sambrook et al., supra). 20 Sizes were estimated using a molecular weight standard (Gibco BRL). The blot was hybridized with either an RIP probe corresponding to the C-terminal half of the protein (cDNA III1) or with a probe detecting ribosomal 28S RNA. Hybridization was allowed to proceed overnight in 40% 25 formamide, 4X SSC, 10% dextran sulfate, 7 mM Tris (pH 7.6), and 20 μ g/ml salmon sperm DNA at 42°C. The blots were then washed at 50°C in 1X SSC, 0.1% SDS (RIP probe) or 60°C in 0.1% SSC, 0.1% SDS (28S probe), and exposed to film with intensifying screens.

30 RIP Antisera and Immunoprecipitations

Rabbit polyclonal antisera recognizing RIP were prepared by Pocono Rabbit Farm & Laboratory, Inc.

(Canadensis, PA) using a fusion protein containing the C-terminal 250 amino acids of mouse RIP fused to maltosebinding protein (MBP; New England Biolabs). MBP-RIP was

purified by amylose chromatography and acrylamide gel elution. For immunoprecipitations, RIP was first transcribed in vitro using 15 μ g full-length RIP template in a 300 μ l reaction containing 3.3 mM each ATP, GTP, 5 CTP, and UTP, 280 units RNAse inhibitor, 400 units Sp6 RNA polymerase and 1X Sp6 buffer (Boehringer Mannheim Biochemicals) at 37°C for 2 h. Translations were carried out using a reticulocyte lysate kit containing a luciferase positive control (Oromega) using approximately $_{10}$ 4 μ Ci 35 S-Met per reaction. Reaction products were diluted to 1 ml in a modified RIPA buffer (0.5% NP40, 0.5% sodium deoxycholate, 0.025% SDS, 50 mM Tris, 30 mM sodium pyrophosphate, 50 mM NaF, 100 uM sodium orthovanadate [pH7.6]) containing protease inhibitors and 15 precleared with 50 μ l normal rabbit serum and 100 μ l protein A sepharose (1:1). Reactions were split in half, 5 μ l preimmune or immune serum was added to each, and samples were allowed to rotate for 1 h at 4°C. Complexes were precipitated with 40 μ l protein A sepharose (1:1), 20 washed 3 times with modified RIPA buffer, and resolved by SDS-PAGE.

For immunoprecipitation from metabolically labeled cells, a 150 mm plate of subconfluent NIH3T3 cells were incubated overnight in methionine-deficient DMEM (Gibco/BRL, catalog #11970-019) supplemented with 35S-methionine (~100 μCi/ml), 5% dialyzed fetal calf serum, 2 mM glutamine, penicillin (50 U/ml), and streptomycin (50 μg/ml). Cells were lysed for 15 min on ice in lysis buffer (250 mM NaCl, 50 mM HEPES-KOH, [pH 7.5], 5 mM EDTA, 0.1 mM sodium orthovanadate, 50 mM NaF, 0.1% Triton-X, 100 μg/ml PMSF, 2 μg/ml pepstatin, and 10 μg/ml each aprotonin and leupeptin), scraped, and spun at 15,000 x g for 10 min. Cleared lysate was precleared once with normal rabbit serum and twice with protein A-sepharose (Pharmacia) before addition of antibodies (3 μl

of preimmune or immune rabbit serum). Immune complexes were harvested with protein A-sepharose, and beads were washed four times with lysis buffer before resuspension in denaturing sample buffer. Following SDS-PAGE, the gel was enhanced for fluorography with Enlightening solution (DuPont), and dried down on absorbent paper.

Transfections and Immunofluorescence

BHK cells were plated the night before transfection at a density of 104 cells per 18mm round 10 coverslip (VWR Scientific). CaPO4 precipitates were made by standard techniques and 18-20 h after transfection, cells were analyzed by immunofluorescence, as described by Heald et al. (Cell 74:463, 1993). Cells were fixed for 10 minutes at 3% formaldehyde and washed extensively 15 in PBS containing 0.1% NP40. Cells were reacted with primary and secondary antibodies for 30 minutes each. Nuclei were stained with Hoechst 33258 (1 μ g/ml) and mounted on slides with 90% glycerol, 0.2 M Tris (pH 8.0). The 9E10 anti-myc antibody (Evan et al., 1985) was 20 obtained as an ascites from the Harvard Cell Culture facility and used at 20 μ g/ml. RIP and β -galactosidase antisera were used at dilutions of 1:200. FITC antimouse and Texas Red anti-rabbit secondary antibodies were obtained from Jackson Immunoresearch. Cells were 25 examined with a Zeiss Axiophot™ fluorescent microscope.

β-Galactosidase activity in cells was visualized by fixing cells with 0.5% glutareldehyde for 15 min. followed by extensive washing in PBS containing 5 mM MgCl₂. Cells were stained in PBS containing 20 mM 30 each K₃Fe(CN)₆ and K₄Fe(CN)₆.3H₂O, 1 mM MgCl₂, and 1 mg/ml X-gal (5-Bromo-4-chloro-3-indolyl-β-D-galactoside) until a suitable color developed, usually for 2-3 hours. To enumerate the fraction of blue cells which had undergone apoptotic changes, cells were transfected with one of the four plasmid combinations described and fixed 16 h after

- 33 -

transfection. Blue cells were included for analysis only if their morphological status could be scored unambiguously.

Other embodiments of the invention are within 5 the following claims.

PCT/US96/05386 WO 96/36730

- 34 -

SEQUENCE LISTING

(1) GENERAL INFORMATION:

- (i) APPLICANT: President and Fellows of Harvard College
- (ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: CELL DEATH PROTEIN
- (111) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 35
- (iv) CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:
 - (A) ADDRESSEE: Fish & Richardson P.C.
 - (B) STREET: 225 Franklin Street, Suite 3100
 - (C) CITY: Boston (D) STATE: MA

 - (E) COUNTRY: USA
 - (F) ZIP: 02110-2804
- (v) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:
 - (A) MEDIUM TYPE: Floppy disk
 - (B) COMPUTER: IBM PC compatible
 - (C) OPERATING SYSTEM: PC-DOS/MS-DOS
 - (D) SOFTWARE: PatentIn Release #1.0, Version #1.30
- (vi) CURRENT APPLICATION DATA:
 - (A) APPLICATION NUMBER: PCT/US96/----
 - (B) FILING DATE: 18-APR-96
 - (C) CLASSIFICATION:
- (vi) PRIOR APPLICATION DATA:
 - (A) APPLICATION NUMBER: 08/444,005 (B) FILING DATE: 18-MAY-95

 - (C) CLASSIFICATION:
- (viii) ATTORNEY/AGENT INFORMATION:

 - (A) NAME: Clark, Paul T. (B) REGISTRATION NUMBER: 30,164
 - (C) REFERENCE/DOCKET NUMBER: 00383/026001
 - (ix) TELECOMMUNICATION INFORMATION:
 - (A) TELEPHONE: 617/542-5070
 - (B) TELEFAX: 617/542-8906 (C) TELEX: 200154
- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:1:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 33 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)
 - (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:1:

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:2:

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(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 36 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:2:	
CGCGGGGCGG CCGCTCTAGA CCAAGCTTTG GATTTC	36
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:3:	
(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 33 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:3: CGCGGGGGGC GCTACCAACG GTGGAAGTCC AAG (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:4: (1) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:	33
(A) LENGTH: 36 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:4:	
CGCGGGGCGG CCGCTGCCCG CAGGGGCCCA GCCTCA	36
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:5:	
 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 33 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear 	
(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)	

_	36	_

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:5:	
CGCGGGACGC GTAAGAAGCC CTTGTGCCTG CAG	33
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:6:	
(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 36 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:6:	
CGCGGGGCGG CCGCTTTAAC TGGGCTTCAT CCCAGC	36
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:7:	
(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:7:	
CGAAAGAATG GTAACAATGA AGCC	24
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:8:	
(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:8:	
GGCTTCATTG TTACCATTCT TTCG	24
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:9:	
(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 62 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	

PCT/US96/05386

(ii)	MOLECULE	TYPE:	DNA	(genom:	Lc)
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	(x1) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:9:	
ATTO	COTOCCA GCCAGAGCGG CATGGAGCAG AAGCTCATCT CAGAAGAAGA CCTCGCGTAA	60
GC		62
(2)	INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:10:	
	(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 63 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
	(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)	
	(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:10:	
GGC	CGCTTAC GCGAGGTCTT CTTCTGAGAT GAGCTTCTGC TCCATGCCGC TCTGGCTGGC	60
ACG		63
(2)	INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:11:	
	(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 29 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
	(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)	
	(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:11:	
ccc	CARGCTTG TTGGAGATTC TGAGCAATC	29
(2)	INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:12:	
	(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 33 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
	(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)	

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:12:

PCT/US96/05386

(2)	INFORMATION	FOR	SEQ	ID	NO: 13	3
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- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (\bar{A}) LENGTH: 60 base pairs

 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:13:

CCCCTCGAGT TAGAGGTCTT CTTCTGAGAT GAGCTTTTGC TCTTTCTTTA AACTTGCCAC 60

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:14:

- (1) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 2268 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:14:

CATACTGAGC AAGAACCAAA AGTGGTGTGT TGGAGATTCT GAGCAATCAA AATGCAACCA 60 120 GACATGTCCT TGGACAATAT TAAGATGGCA TCCAGTGACC TGCTGGAGAA GACAGACCTA GACAGCGGAG GCTTCGGGAA GGTGTCCTTG TGTTACCACA GAAGCCATGG ATTTGTCATC 180 CTGAAAAAG TATACACAGG GCCCAACCGC GCTGAGTACA ATGAGGTTCT CTTGGAAGAG 240 GGGAAGATGA TGCACAGACT GAGACACAGT CGAGTGGTGA AGCTACTGGG CATCATCATA 300 GARGAAGGGA ACTATTCGCT GGTGATGGAG TACATGGAGA AGGGCAACCT GATGCACGTG 360 CTANAGACCC AGATAGATGT CCCACTTTCA TTGAAAGGAA GGATAATCGT GGAGGCCATA 420 GAAGGCATGT GCTACTTACA TGACAAAGGT GTGATACACA AGGACCTGAA GCCTGAGAAT 480 540 ATCCTCGTTG ATCGTGACTT TCACATTAAG ATAGCCGATC TTGGTGTGGC TTCCTTTAAG 600 ACATGGAGCA AACTGACTAA GGAGAAAGAC AACAAGCAGA AAGAAGTGAG CAGCACCACT AAGAAGAACA ATGGTGGTAC CCTTTACTAC ATGGCACCCG AACACCTGAA TGACATCAAT 660 GCAAAGCCCA CGGAGAAGTC GGACGTGTAC AGCTTTGGCA TTGTCCTTTG GGCAATATTT 720 GCAAAAAAGG AGCCCTATGA GAATGTCATC TGTACTGAGC AGTTCGTGAT CTGCATAAAA 780 TCTGGGAACA GGCCAAATGT AGAGGAAATC CTTGAGTACT GTCCAAGGGA GATCATCAGC 840 CTCATGGAGC GGTGCTGGCA GGCGATCCCA GAAGACAGGC CAACATTTCT TGGCATTGAA 900 GAAGAATTTA GGCCTTTTTA CTTAAGTCAT TTTGAAGAAT ATGTAGAAGA GGATGTGGCA 960

agtttaaaga	AAGAGTATCC	AGATCAAAGC	CCAGTGCTGC	AGAGAATGTT	TTCACTGCAG	1020
CATGACTGTG	TACCCTTACC	TCCGAGCAGG	TCAAATTCAG	AACAACCTGG	ATCGCTGCAC	1080
AGTTCCCAGG	GGCTCCAGAT	GGGTCCTGTG	GAGGAGTCCT	GGTTTTCTTC	CTCCCCAGAG	1140
TACCCACAGG	ACGAGAATGA	TCGCAGTGTG	CAGGCTAAGC	TGCAAGAGGA	AGCCAGCTAT	1200
CATGCTTTTG	GAATATTTGC	AGAGAAACAG	ACAAAACCGC	AGCCAAGGCA	GAATGAGGCT	1260
TACAACAGAG	AGGAGGAAAG	GAAACGAAGG	GTCTCTCATG	ACCCCTTTGC	ACAGCAGAGA	1320
GCTCGTGAGA	ATATTAAGAG	TGCAGGAGCA	AGAGGTCATT	CTGATCCCAG	CACAACGAGT	1380
CGTGGAATTG	CAGTGCAACA	GCTGTCATGG	CCAGCCACCC	AAACAGTTTG	GAACAATGGA	1440
TTGTATAATC	AGCATGGATT	TGGAACTACA	GGTACAGGAG	TTTGGTATCC	GCCAAATCTA	1500
AGCCAAATGT	ATAGTACTTA	TAAAACTCCA	GTGCCAGAGA	CCAACATACC	GGGAAGCACA	1560
CCCACCATGC	CATACTTCTC	TGGGCCAGTA	GCAGATGACC	TCATAAAATA	TACTATATTC	1620
AATAGTTCTG	GTATTCAGAT	TGGAAACCAC	AATTATATGG	ATGTTGGACT	GAATTCACAA	1680
CCACCAAACA	ATACTTGCAA	AGAAGAGTCG	ACTTCCAGAC	ACCAAGCCAT	CTTTGATAAC	1740
ACCACTAGTO	TGACTGATGA	ACACCTGAAC	CCTATCAGGG	AAAACCTGGG	AAGGCAGTGG	1800
AAAAACTGTG	CCCCCAAGCT	GGGCTTCACT	GAGTCTCAGA	TCGATGAAAT	CGACCATGAC	1860
TATGAAAGAG	ATGGACTGAA	AGAGAAAGTI	TACCAAATGC	TTCAGAAGTG	GCTGATGCGG	1920
GAAGGCACCA	AAGGGGCCAC	AGTGGGAAAG	TTGGCCCAGG	CACTTCACCA	ATGTTGCAGG	1980
ATAGACCTG	TGAACCACTI	GATTCGTGC	C AGCCAGAGCT	AAGCCTGGGG	AGGCTCTGGC	2040
AGTGGGAAG	AAACTATTTC	TCTGGTGCA	C AAACCCCGTT	TGCCCACTAC	CCTTCAGAAC	2100
TCTATCTCAC	CATGAGCTC	CCATTTGAG	C ACACAGGGT	ATGCAGTTTC	GAACTGGTGG	2160
ATGGGAAGA	G AAATCTGAAG	G CCCACAGTG	A TTCTTCAGAI	A CATCCAAGC	TARAGACCGC	2220
TGAATGAAT	G GTCGGTCCA	r gaccagtag	G AGAAAAAAA	A AAAAAAG		2268

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:15:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

 - (A) LENGTH: 656 amino acids
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: not relevant
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:15:

Met Gln Pro Asp Met Ser Leu Asp Asn Ile Lys Met Ala Ser Ser Asp 5

Leu Leu Glu Lys Thr Asp Leu Asp Ser Gly Gly Phe Gly Lys Val Ser 20 25 30 Leu Cys Tyr His Arg Ser His Gly Phe Val Ile Leu Lys Lys Val Tyr Thr Gly Pro Asn Arg Ala Glu Tyr Asn Glu Val Leu Leu Glu Glu Gly 50 60 Lys Met Met His Arg Leu Arg His Ser Arg Val Val Lys Leu Leu Gly 65 70 75 80 Ile Ile Ile Glu Glu Gly Asn Tyr Ser Leu Val Met Glu Tyr Met Glu 85 90 95 Lys Gly Asn Leu Met His Val Leu Lys Thr Gln Ile Asp Val Pro Leu Ser Leu Lys Gly Arg Ile Ile Val Glu Ala Ile Glu Gly Het Cys Tyr Leu His Asp Lys Gly Val Ile His Lys Asp Leu Lys Pro Glu Asn Ile Leu Val Asp Arg Asp Phe His Ile Lys Ile Ala Asp Leu Gly Val Ala Ser Phe Lys Thr Trp Ser Lys Leu Thr Lys Glu Lys Asp Asn Lys Gln Lys Glu Val Ser Ser Thr Thr Lys Lys Asn Asn Gly Gly Thr Leu Tyr Tyr Met Ala Pro Glu His Leu Asn Asp Ile Asn Ala Lys Pro Thr Glu 195 200 205 Lys Ser Asp Val Tyr Ser Phe Gly Ile Val Leu Trp Ala Ile Phe Ala 210 215 220 Lys Lys Glu Pro Tyr Glu Asn Val Ile Cys Thr Glu Gln Phe Val Ile Cys Ile Lys Ser Gly Asn Arg Pro Asn Val Glu Glu Ile Leu Glu Tyr 245 250 255 Cys Pro Arg Glu Ile Ile Ser Leu Met Glu Arg Cys Trp Gln Ala Ile Pro Glu Asp Arg Pro Thr Phe Leu Gly Ile Glu Glu Glu Phe Arg Pro 275 280 285 Phe Tyr Leu Ser His Phe Glu Glu Tyr Val Glu Glu Asp Val Ala Ser Leu Lys Lys Glu Tyr Pro Asp Gln Ser Pro Val Leu Gln Arg Met Phe Ser Leu Gln His Asp Cys Val Pro Leu Pro Pro Ser Arg Ser Asn Ser 325 330 335 330 Glu Gln Pro Gly Ser Leu His Ser Ser Gln Gly Leu Gln M t Gly Pro 340 345 Val Glu Glu Ser Trp Phe Ser Ser Ser Pro Glu Tyr Pro Gln Asp Glu 360 Asn Asp Arg Ser Val Gln Ala Lys Leu Gln Glu Glu Ala Ser Tyr His Ala Phe Gly Ile Phe Ala Glu Lys Gln Thr Lys Pro Gln Pro Arg Gln Asn Glu Ala Tyr Asn Arg Glu Glu Glu Arg Lys Arg Arg Val Ser His Asp Pro Phe Ala Gln Gln Arg Ala Arg Glu Asn Ile Lys Ser Ala Gly Ala Arg Gly His Ser Asp Pro Ser Thr Thr Ser Arg Gly Ile Ala Val 440 Gln Gln Leu Ser Trp Pro Ala Thr Gln Thr Val Trp Asn Asn Gly Leu Tyr Asn Gln His Gly Phe Gly Thr Thr Gly Thr Gly Val Trp Tyr Pro Pro Asn Leu Ser Gln Met Tyr Ser Thr Tyr Lys Thr Pro Val Pro Glu Thr Asn Ile Pro Gly Ser Thr Pro Thr Met Pro Tyr Phe Ser Gly Pro 505 Val Ala Asp Asp Leu Ile Lys Tyr Thr Ile Phe Asn Ser Ser Gly Ile Gln Ile Gly Asn His Asn Tyr Het Asp Val Gly Leu Asn Ser Gln Pro Pro Asn Asn Thr Cys Lys Glu Glu Ser Thr Ser Arg His Gln Ala Ile Phe Asp Asn Thr Thr Ser Leu Thr Asp Glu His Leu Asn Pro Ile Arg Glu Asn Leu Gly Arg Gln Trp Lys Asn Cys Ala Arg Lys Leu Gly Phe Thr Glu Ser Gln Ile Asp Glu Ile Asp His Asp Tyr Glu Arg Asp Gly Leu Lys Glu Lys Val Tyr Gln Met Leu Gln Lys Trp Leu Met Arg Glu
610 620 Gly Thr Lys Gly Ala Thr Val Gly Lys Leu Ala Gln Ala Leu His Gln Cys Cys Arg Ile Asp Leu Leu Asn His Leu Ile Arg Ala Ser Gln Ser 650

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:16:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 2137 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid

(C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:16:

(302)			_			
ATGCAACCAG	ACATGTCCTT	GAATGTCATT	AAGATGAAAT	CCAGTGACTT	CCTGGAGAGT	60
GCAGAACTGG	ACAGCGGAGG	CTTCGGGAAG	GTGTCTCTGT	GTTTCCACAG	AACCCAGGGA	120
CTCATGATCA	TGAAAACAGT	GTACAAGGGG	CCCAACTGCA	TTGAGCACAA	CGAGGCCCTC	180
TTGGAGGAGG	CGAAGATGAT	GAACAGACTG	AGACACAGCC	GGGTGGTGAA	GCTCCTGGGC	240
GTCATCATAG	AGGAAGGGAA	GTACTCCCTG	GTGATGGAGT	ACATGGAGAA	GGGCAACCTG	300
ATGCACGTGC	TGAAAGCCGA	GATGAGTACT	CCGCTTTCTG	TAAAAGGAAG	GATAATTTTG	360
GAAATCATTG	AAGGAATGTG	CTACTTACAT	GGAAAAGGCG	TGATACACAA	GGACCTGAAG	420
CCTGAAAATA	TCCTTGTTGA	TAATGACTTC	CACATTAAGA	TCGCAGACCT	CGGCCTTGCC	480
TCCTTTAAGA	TGTGGAGCAA	ACTGAATAAT	GAAGAGCACA	ATGAGCTGAG	GGAAGTGGAC	540
GGCACCGCTA	AGAAGAATGG	CGCCACCCTC	TACTACATGG	CGCCCGAGCA	CCTGAATGAC	600
GTCAACGCAA	AGCCCACAGA	GAAGTCGGAT	GTGTACAGCT	TTGCTGTAGT	ACTCTGGGCG	660
ATATTTGCAA	ATAAGGAGCC	ATATGAAAAT	GCTATCTGTG	AGCAGCAGTT	GATAATGTGC	720
ATAAAATCTG	GGAACAGGCC	AGATGTGGAT	GACATCACTG	AGTACTGCCC	aagagaaatt	780
ATCAGTCTC	TGAAGCTCTG	CTGGGAAGCG	AATCCGGAAG	CTCGGCCGAC	ATTTCCTGGC	840
ATTGAAGAAA	AATTTAGGCC	TTTTTATTA	AGTCAATTAG	AAGAAAGTGT	AGAAGAGGAC	900
GTGAAGAGT	TAAAGAAAGA	GTATTCAAAC	GAAAATGCAG	TTGTGAAGAG	AATGCAGTCT	960
CTTCAACTTC	ATTGTGTGGC	AGTACCTTCA	AGCCGGTCAA	ATTCAGCCAC	AGAACAGGCT	1020
GGTTCACTG	C ACAGTTCCCA	GGGACTTGGG	ATGGGTCCTG	TGGAGGAGTC	CTGGTTTGGT	1080
CCTTCCCTG	G AGCACCCACA	AGAAGAGAA1	GAGCCCAGCC	TGCAGAGTAA	ACTCCAAGAC	1140
GAAGCCAAC!	r accatettta	TGGCAGCCGC	: ATGGACAGGC	agacgaaaca	GCAGCCCAGA	1200
CAGAATGTG	CTTACAACAG	AGAGGAGGAF	AGGAGACGCA	GGGTCTCCCA	TGACCCTTTT	1260
GCACAGCAA	A GACCTTACGE	GAATTTTCAG	AATACAGAGG	GAAAAGGCAC	TGTTTATTCC	1320
AGTGCAGCC	A GTCATGGTAF	TGCAGTGCA	CAGCCATCAG	GGCTCACCAG	CCAACCTCAA	1380
GTACTGTAT	C AGAACAATGO	ATTATATAG	C TCACATGGCT	TTGGAACAAG	ACCACTGGAT	1440
CCAGGAACA	G CAGGTCCCAC	AGTTTGGTA	C AGGCCAATTO	C CAAGTCATA	GCCTAGTCTG	1500
CATAATATC	C CAGTGCCTG	A GACCAACTA	CTAGGAAAT	r ctcccacca	GCCATTCAGC	1560
TCCTTGCCA	C CAACAGATG	A ATCTATAAA	A TATACCATA	r acaatagta	C TGGCATTCAG	1620

- 43 -

ATTGGAGCCT	ACAATTATAT	GGAGATTGGT	GGGACGAGTT	CATCACTACT	AGACAGCACA	1680
AATACGAACT	TCAAAGAAGA	GCCAGCTGCT	AAGTACCAAG	CTATCTTTGA	TAATACCACT	1740
AGTCTGACGG	ATAAACACCT	GGACCCAATC	AGGGAAAATC	TGGGAAAGCA	CTGGAAAAAC	1800
TGTGCCCGTA	AACTGGGCTT	CACACAGTCT	CAGATTGATG	AAATTGACCA	TGACTATGAG	1860
CGAGATGGAC	TGAAAGAAAA	GGTTTACCAG	ATGCTCCAAA	AGTGGGTGAT	GAGGGAAGGC	1920
ATAAAGGGAG	CCACGGTGGG	GAAGCTGGCC	CAGGCGCTCC	ACCAGTGTTC	CAGGATCGAC	1980
CTTCTGAGCA	GCTTGATTTA	CGTCAGCCAG	AACTAACCCT	GGATGGGCTA	CGGCAGCTGA	2040
agtggacgcc	TCACTTAGTG	GATAACCCCA	GAAAGTTGGC	TGCCTCAGAG	CATTCAGAAT	2100
TCTGTCCTCA	CTGATAGGGG	TTCTGTGTCT	GCAGAAA			2137

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:17:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 709 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: not relevant
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:17:

Met Gln Pro Asp Met Ser Leu Asn Val Ile Lys Met Lys Ser Ser Asp 1 10 15

Phe Leu Glu Ser Ala Glu Leu Asp Ser Gly Gly Phe Gly Lys Val Ser 20 25 30

Leu Cys Phe His Arg Thr Gln Gly Leu Met Ile Met Lys Thr Val Tyr 35 40 45

Lys Gly Pro Asn Cys Ile Glu His Asn Glu Ala Leu Leu Glu Glu Ala 50 55 60

Lys Met Met Asn Arg Leu Arg His Ser Arg Val Val Lys Leu Leu Gly 65 70 75 80

Val Ile Ile Glu Glu Gly Lys Tyr Ser Leu Val Met Glu Tyr Met Glu 85 90 95

Lys Gly Asn Leu Met His Val Leu Lys Ala Glu Met Ser Thr Pro Leu 100 105 110

Ser Val Lys Gly Arg Ile Ile Leu Glu Ile Ile Glu Gly Met Cys Tyr 115 120 125

Leu His Gly Lys Gly Val Ile His Lys Asp Leu Lys Pro Glu Asn Ile 130 135 140

Leu Val Asp Asn Asp Phe His Ile Lys Ile Ala Asp Leu Gly Leu Ala 145 150 155 160

Ser Phe Lys Met Trp Ser Lys Leu Asn Asn Glu Glu His Asn Glu Leu Arg Glu Val Asp Gly Thr Ala Lys Lys Asn Gly Gly Thr Leu Tyr Tyr 180 185 190 Met Ala Pro Glu His Leu Asn Asp Val Asn Ala Lys Pro Thr Glu Lys Ser Asp Val Tyr Ser Phe Ala Val Val Leu Trp Ala Ile Phe Ala Asn Lys Glu Pro Tyr Glu Asn Ala Ile Cys Glu Gln Gln Leu Ile Met Cys 225 230 240 Ile Lys Ser Gly Asn Arg Pro Asp Val Asp Asp Ile Thr Glu Tyr Cys Pro Arg Glu Ile Ile Ser Leu Met Lys Leu Cys Trp Glu Ala Asn Pro Glu Ala Arg Pro Thr Phe Pro Gly Ile Glu Glu Lys Phe Arg Pro Phe 275 280 285 Tyr Leu Ser Gln Leu Glu Glu Ser Val Glu Glu Asp Val Lys Ser Leu Lys Lys Glu Tyr Ser Asn Glu Asn Ala Val Val Lys Arg Met Gln Ser Leu Gln Leu Asp Cys Val Ala Val Pro Ser Ser Arg Ser Asn Ser Ala 325 330 335 Thr Glu Gln Ala Gly Ser Leu His Ser Ser Gln Gly Leu Gly Met Gly Pro Val Glu Glu Ser Trp Phe Gly Pro Ser Leu Glu His Pro Gln Glu 355 360 365 Glu Asn Glu Pro Ser Leu Gln Ser Lys Leu Gln Asp Glu Ala Asn Tyr His Leu Tyr Gly Ser Arg Met Asp Arg Gln Thr Lys Gln Gln Pro Arg Gln Asn Val Ala Tyr Asn Arg Glu Glu Glu Arg Arg Arg Val Ser His Asp Pro Phe Ala Gln Gln Arg Pro Tyr Glu Asn Phe Gln Asn Thr 420 425 430 Glu Gly Lys Gly Thr Val Tyr Ser Ser Ala Ala Ser His Gly Asn Ala Val His Gln Pro Ser Gly Leu Thr Ser Gln Pro Gln Val Leu Tyr Gln Asn Asn Gly Leu Tyr Ser Ser His Gly Phe Gly Thr Arg Pro Leu Asp Pro Gly Thr Ala Gly Pro Arg Val Trp Tyr Arg Pro Ile Pro Ser His

PCT/US96/05386

Met Pro Ser Leu His Asn Ile Pro Val Pro Glu Thr Asn Tyr Leu Gly 500 505 510

Asn Ser Pro Thr Met Pro Phe Ser Ser Leu Pro Pro Thr Asp Glu Ser 515 520 525

Ile Lys Tyr Thr Ile Tyr Asn Ser Thr Gly Ile Gln Ile Gly Ala Tyr
530 540

Asn Tyr Met Glu Ile Gly Gly Thr Ser Ser Ser Leu Leu Asp Ser Thr 545 550 555

Asn Thr Asn Phe Lys Glu Glu Pro Ala Ala Lys Tyr Gln Ala Ile Phe 565 570 575

Asp Asn Thr Thr Ser Leu Thr Asp Lys His Leu Asp Pro Ile Arg Glu 580 585 590

Asn Leu Gly Lys His Trp Lys Asn Cys Ala Arg Lys Leu Gly Phe Thr 595 600 605

Gln Ser Gln Ile Asp Glu Ile Asp His Asp Tyr Glu Arg Asp Gly Leu 610 615 620

Lys Glu Lys Val Tyr Gln Met Leu Gln Lys Trp Val Met Arg Glu Gly 625 635 640

Ile Lys Gly Ala Thr Val Gly Lys Leu Ala Gln Ala Leu His Gln Cys 645 655

Ser Arg Ile Asp Leu Leu Ser Ser Leu Ile Tyr Val Ser Gln Asn Pro 660 665 670

Trp Met Gly Tyr Gly Ser Ser Gly Arg Leu Thr Trp Ile Thr Pro Glu 675 680 685

Ser Trp Leu Pro Gln Ser Ile Gln Asn Ser Val Leu Thr Asp Arg Gly 690 695 700

Ser Val Ser Ala Glu 705

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:18:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 38 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: not relevant
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:18:

Ser Arg His Gln Ala Ile Phe Asp Asn Thr Thr Ser Leu Thr Asp Glu 1 5 10 15

- 46 -

His Leu Asn Pro Ile Arg Glu Asn Leu Gly Arg Gln Trp Lys Asn Cys

Ala Arg Lys Leu Gly Phe

- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:19:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 38 amino acids

 - (B) TYPE: amino acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: not relevant
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
 - (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:19:

Ala Lys Tyr Gln Ala Ile Phe Asp Asn Thr Thr Ser Leu Thr Asp Lys

His Leu Asp Pro Ile Arg Glu Asn Leu Gly Lys His Trp Lys Asn Cys

Ala Arg Lys Leu Gly Phe

- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 20:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 25 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: not relevant
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
 - (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:20:

Ser Lys Tyr Ile Pro Arg Ile Ala Glu Asp Met Thr Ile Gln Glu Ala

Lys Lys Phe Ala Arg Glu Asn Asn Ile 20

- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:21:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 25 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: not relevant
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

PCT/US96/05386 WO 96/36730

- 47 -

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:21:

Ser Lys Tyr Ile Thr Thr Ile Ala Gly Val Met Thr Leu Ser Gln Val

Lys Gly Phe Val Arg Lys Asn Gly Val

- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:22:
 - (1) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 40 amino acids (B) TYPE: amino acid

 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: not relevant
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
 - (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:22:

Lys Trp Glu Asp Ser Ala His Pro Gln Arg Pro Asp Asn Ala Asp Leu

Ala Ile Leu Tyr Ala Val Val Asp Gly Val Pro Pro Ala Arg Trp Lys
20 25 30

Glu Phe Met Arg Phe Met Gly Leu

- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:23:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 41 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: not relevant
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
 - (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:23:

Lys Trp Glu Asp Ser Ala His Lys Pro Gln Ser Leu Asp Thr Asp Asp

Pro Ala Thr Leu Tyr Ala Val Val Glu Asn Val Pro Pro Leu Arg Trp 25

Lys Glu Phe Val Arg Arg Leu Gly Leu

- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:24:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 42 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: not relevant
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

- 48 -

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:24:

Thr Glu Ser Gln Ile Asp Glu Ile Asp His Asp Tyr Glu Arg Asp Gly

Leu Lys Glu Lys Val Tyr Gln Met Leu Gln Lys Trp Leu Met Arg Glu

Gly Thr Lys Gly Ala Thr Val Gly Lys Leu

- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:25:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 42 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: not relevant
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
 - (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:25:

Thr Gln Ser Gln Ile Asp Glu Ile Asp His Asp Tyr Glu Arg Asp Gly

Leu Lys Glu Lys Val Tyr Gln Met Leu Gln Lys Trp Val Met Arg Glu

Gly Ile Lys Gly Ala Thr Val Gly Lys Leu 35 40

- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:26:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 40 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: not relevant
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
 - (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:26:

Lys Glu Gly Lys Ile Asp Glu Ile Met His Asp Ser Ile Gln Asp Thr

Ala Glu Gln Lys Val Gln Leu Leu Cys Trp Tyr Gln Ser His Gly

Lys Ser Asp Ala Tyr Gln Asp Leu

- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:27:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 40 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: not relevant
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:27:

Asn Glu Ala Lys Ile Asp Glu Ile Lys Asn Asp Asn Val Gln Asp Thr

Ala Glu Gln Lys Val Gln Leu Leu Arg Asn Trp His Gln Leu His Gly

Lys Lys Glu Ala Tyr Asp Thr Leu

- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:28:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 41 amino acids (B) TYPE: amino acid

 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: not relevant
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
 - (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:28:

Ser Glu His Glu Ile Glu Arg Leu Glu Met Gln Asn Gly Arg Cys Leu

Arg Glu Ala Gln Tyr Ser Met Leu Glu Ala Trp Arg Arg Thr Pro 25

Arg His Glu Asp Thr Leu Glu Val Val

- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:29:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 41 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: not relevant
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
 - (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:29:

Ser Asp His Glu Ile Asp Arg Leu Glu Leu Gln Asn Gly Arg Cys Leu 1 5 10 15

PCT/US96/05386

- 50 -

Arg Glu Ala Gln Tyr Ser Het Leu Ala Thr Trp Arg Arg Thr Pro 30

Arg Arg Glu Ala Thr Leu Glu Leu Leu

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:30:

WO 96/36730

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 23 amino acids (B) TYPE: amino acid

 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: not relevant
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:30:

Ala Gln Ala Leu His Gln Cys Cys Arg Ile Asp Leu Leu Asn His Leu

Ile Leu Arg Ala Ser Gln Ser 20

- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:31:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 22 amino acids

 - (B) TYPE: amino acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: not relevant
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
 - (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:31:

Ala Gln Ala Leu His Gln Cys Ser Arg Ile Asp Leu Leu Ser Ser Leu

Ile Tyr Val Ser Gln Asn 20

- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:32:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 41 amino acids

 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: not relevant
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
 - (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:32:

- 51 -

Ile Lys Gly Leu Lys Lys Ala Glu Cys Arg Arg Thr Leu Asp Lys Phe

Gln Asp Met Val Gln Lys Asp Leu Gly Lys Ser Thr Pro Asp Thr Gly

Asn Glu Asn Glu Gly Gln Cys Leu Glu 35

- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:33:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 41 amino acids

 - (B) TYPE: amino acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: not relevant
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
 - (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:33:

Ile Lys Asp Leu Lys Lys Ala Asn Leu Cys Thr Leu Ala Glu Lys Ile

Gln Thr Ile Ile Leu Lys Asp Ile Thr Ser Asp Ser Glu Asn Ser Asn

Phe Arg Asn Glu Ile Gln Ser Leu Val 35

- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:34:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 33 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: not relevant
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
 - (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:34:

Gly Leu Val Leu Ser Lys Met Asn Leu Ala Gly Cys Leu Glu Asn Ile

Leu Glu Ala Leu Arg Asn Pro Ala Pro Ser Ser Thr Thr Arg Leu Pro

Arg

- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:35:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 35 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: not relevant

PCT/US96/05386

- 52 -

- (D) TOPOLOGY: lin ar
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:35:

Gly Arg Val Leu Arg Asp Met Asp Leu Leu Gly Cys Leu Glu Asp Ile 1 5 10 15

Glu Glu Ala Leu Cys Cys Gly Pro Ala Ala Leu Pro Pro Ala Pro Ser 20 25 30

Leu Leu Arg 35

- 53 -

<u>Claims</u>

We claim:

- 1. An isolated receptor interacting protein (RIP), comprising a death domain in its carboxy terminal region and a kinase domain in its amino terminal region, said RIP being capable of interacting with a Fas/APO-1 intracellular domain, and being capable of promoting apoptosis in a eukaryotic cell.
- 2. The RIP of claim 1, said RIP being a human 10 protein.
 - 3. The RIP of claim 2, said RIP comprising an amino acid sequence consisting of (SEQ ID NO:17).
 - 4. The RIP of claim 1, said RIP being a murine protein.
- 5. The RIP of claim 4, said RIP comprising an amino acid sequence consisting of (SEQ ID NO:15).
 - 6. An isolated polypeptide comprising the death domain of an RIP.
- 7. An isolated polypeptide comprising the 20 kinase domain of an RIP.
- 8. An isolated DNA molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding an RIP, said RIP comprising a death domain in its carboxy terminal region and a kinase domain in its amino terminal region, said RIP being capable of interacting with a Fas intracellular domain, and said RIP being capable of pr moting apoptosis in a eukaryotic cell.

- 54 -

- 9. The isolated DNA m lecule of claim 8, wherein said nucleotide sequence encodes a human RIP.
- 10. The isolated DNA molecule of claim 8, wherein said nucleotide sequence encodes a murine RIP.
- 5 11. An isolated DNA molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding an RIP death domain.
 - 12. An isolated DNA molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding an RIP kinase domain.
- 13. A transformed host cell comprising a 10 recombinant DNA molecule encoding an RIP.
 - 14. The transformed host cell of claim 13, said transformed host cell being a cultured cell of a metazoan animal.
- 15. The transformed host cell of claim 13, 15 said transformed host cell being prokaryotic.

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- 16. A polyclonal antibody preparation obtained by immunizing an animal with an isolated protein comprising an RIP death domain, said polyclonal antibody preparation having binding activity directed to the RIP intracellular domain.
- 17. The polyclonal antibody preparation of claim 16, wherein said binding activity directed to the RIP death domain is substantially greater than the binding activity directed to any member of the NGFR/TNFR protein family.

- 55 -

- 18. A monoclonal antibody that reacts with an RIP death domain.
- 19. The monoclonal antibody of claim 18, whose binding directed to the RIP intracellular domain is substantially greater than the binding activity directed to any member of the NGFR/TNFR protein family.
 - 20. A cellular screening method for identifying chemical compounds capable of inhibiting RIP-dependent promotion of apoptosis, said method comprising the steps of:
- (a) expressing recombinant RIP in a transformed host cell;

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- (b) contacting said transformed host cell with an inhibitor candidate compound;
- 15 (c) detecting morphological or biochemical indicia of apoptosis in said transformed host cell at an appropriate time interval following expression of recombinant RIP; and
- (d) comparing the detection in step (c) with
 the corresponding detections from one or more appropriate experimental controls.
 - 21. The method of claim 20, wherein said recombinant RIP is expressed under the control of an inducible promoter.
- 25 22. The method of claim 20, wherein step (b) precedes step (a).
 - 23. A cell-free screening method for identifying chemical compounds capable of inhibiting RIP-dependent promotion of apoptosis, said method comprising the steps of:

- 56 -

(a) contacting, in the presence of an inhibitor candidate compound, a protein comprising the death domain of RIP with an RIP interaction partner;

- (b) detecting a specific interaction, in the presence of an inhibitor candidate compound, between said protein comprising the death domain of RIP and said RIP interaction partner;
 - (c) contacting, in the absence of said inhibitor candidate compound, said protein comprising the death domain of RIP with said RIP interaction partner;

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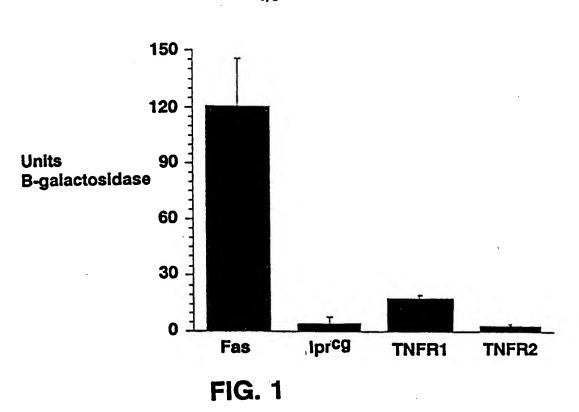
25

- (d) detecting a specific interaction, in the absence of said inhibitor candidate compound, between said protein comprising the death domain of RIP and said RIP interaction partner; and
- (e) comparing the detection in step (b) and the detection in step (d).
 - 24. The method of claim 23, wherein said RIP interaction partner is Fas/APO-1.
- 25. The method of claim 23, wherein said RIP interaction partner is inserted into a biological membrane.
 - 26. A cellular screening method for identifying chemical compounds capable of inducing RIP expression and apoptosis resulting therefrom, said method comprising the steps of:
 - (a) culturing a eukaryotic cell;
 - (b) contacting said eukaryotic cell in culture with a RIP-inducing compound candidate;
- (c) detecting morphological or biochemical
 indicia of apoptosis in said transformed host cell at an
 appropriate time interval following expression of
 recombinant RIP; and

- 57 -

- (d) comparing the detection in step (c) with the corresponding detections from one or more appropriate experimental controls.
- 27. A method of producing, for introduction 5 into a patient undergoing gene therapy, cells that can be induced to undergo apoptosis upon administration of an exogenous agent to said patient.

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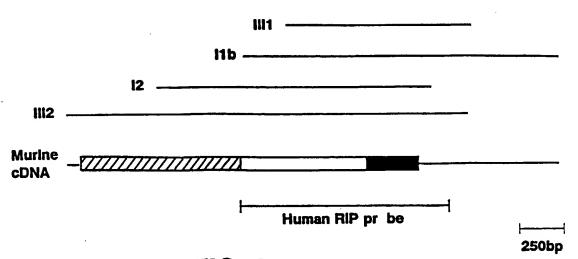


FIG. 2
SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)

(SEQ ID NO:15)

MQPDMSLDNIKMASSDLLEKTDLDSGGFGKVSLCYHRSHG 41 FVILKKVYTGPNRAEYNEVLLEEGKMMHRLRHSRVVKLLG 81 IIIEEGNYSLVMEYMEKGNLMHVLKTQIDVPLSLKGRIIV 121 EAIEGMCYLHDKGVIHKDLKPENILVDRDFHIKIADLGVA 161 S F K T W S K L T K E K D N K Q K E V S S T T K K N N G G T L Y Y M A P E H L N 201 DINAKPTEKSDVYSFGIVLWAIFAKKEPYENVICTEQFVI 241 CIKSGNRPNVEEILEYCPREIISLMERCWQAIPEDRPTFL 281 GIEEEFRPFYLSHFEEYVEEDVASLKKEYPDQSPVLQRMF --K----SNENA-VKR-Q 321 SLQHDCVPLPPSRSNS..EQPGSLHSSQGLQMGPVEESWF 21 --- L --- A V - S ---- A T ---- I 359 S S S P E Y P Q D E N D R S V Q A K L Q E E A S Y H A F G I F A E K Q T K P Q P 61 A P - L - H - - E - - E P - L - S - - - D - - N - - L Y - S R M D R - - - Q - -399 RQNEAYNREEERKRRVSHDPFAQQRARENIKSAGARGHSD 101 - - - V - - - - - - R - - - - - - - - P Y - - F Q N T E G K - T V Y 439 PSTTSRGIAVQQ...LSWPATQTVWNNGLYNQHGFGT... 141 S-AA-H-N--H-PSG-TSQPQVLYQ----SS----RPL . . TGTGVWYPPNLSQMYSTYKTPVPETNIPGSTPTMPY 181 DPGTA-PR---R-IP-H-P-LHNI----YL-NS----F 509 F S G P V A D D L I K Y T I F N S S G I Q I G N H N Y M D V G L N S Q P 221 S - L - P T - E S - - - - - Y - - T - - - - A Y - - - E I - G T - S S L L D S 545 PNNTCKEESTSRHQAIFDNTTSLTDEHLNPIRENLGRQWK 585 NCARKLGFTESQIDEIDHDYERDGLKEKVYQMLQKWLMRE 625 GTKGATVGKLAQALHQCCRIDLLNHLIRASQS

FIG. 3

SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)

isensus , k	House HIP 555 SA H Q A I F D N T T S L T D E H L N P I R E N L G K - H W K N C A R K L G F (SEQ ID NO:18) House FAS 201 S K Y I P R I A E D M T I Q B A K K F A R E N N I (SEQ ID NO:20) House PAS 214 S K Y I T T I A G V M T L S Q V K G F V R K N G V (SEQ ID NO:21) House PAS 114 S K Y I T T I A G V M T L S Q V K G F V R K N G V (SEQ ID NO:21) House PAS THER 313 - K W E D S A H K P Q S L D T D D P A T L Y A V V E N V P R M K E F M R R L G L (SEQ ID NO:23) House PAS THER 312 - K W E D S A H K P Q S L D T D D P A T L Y A V V E N V P P L R W K E F V R R L G L (SEQ ID NO:23)	Sensus I d L W 1	HOUSERIP 593 TES Q I D E I D H D Y E R D G L K E K V Y Q H L Q K W L N R E G T K G A T V G K L (SEQ ID NO:24) HUMAN RIP 309 T Q S Q I D E I D H D Y E R D G L K E K V Y Q H L Q K W V M R E G I K G A T V G K L (SEQ ID NO:25) HOUSE FAS 226 K E G K I D E I M H D S I Q D T A E Q K V - Q L L L C W Y Q S H G - K S D A Y Q D L (SEQ ID NO:25) HUMAN FAS 239 N E A K I D E I K N D N V Q D T A E Q K V - Q L L R N W H Q L H G - K K E A Y D T L (SEQ ID NO:27) HOUSE PSS TNFR 352 S E H E I E R M Q N G R - C L R E A Q Y S H L E A W R R R T P R R E A T L E L L (SEQ ID NO:29) HUMAN PSS TNFR 352 S D H E I D R L E L Q N G R - C L R E A Q Y S H L A T W R R R T P R R E A T L E L L (SEQ ID NO:29)	A B	Mouse RIP 635 A Q A L H Q C S R I D L L N H L I R A S Q S (SEQ ID NO:31) Human RIP 351 A Q A L H Q C S R I D L L S S L I Y V S Q N (SEQ ID NO:31) House FAS 266 I K G L K K R A E - G R R T L D K F Q D W V Q K D L G K S T P D T G N E R G Q C L E (SEQ ID NO:32) Human FAS 279 I K D L K K R A N L C T L A - E K I I L K D I T S D S E N S N F R N E I Q S L V G S Q ID NO:33) Human PAS TNFR 393 G L V L S K M N L - A G C L E N I L E A L R N P A P - S S T T R L P R (SEQ ID NO:35) Human PAS TNFR 393 G R V L R D M D L - L G C L E D I L E R L C G P A A L P P A P S L L R (SEQ ID NO:35)
Consensus	Mouse HIP Human RIP Mouse FAS Human FAS House p55	Consensus	Mouse RIP Human RIP House FAS Human FAS Mouse p55	Consensus	Mouse RIP Human RIP Mouse FAS Human FAS Human PSS

SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)

FIG. 4

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US96/05386

	ICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER					
US CL :435/6	e See Extra Sheet. 5, 7.1, 69.1, 71.2, 240.2; 530/350, 388.15; 514. mational Patent Classification (IPC) or to both n		and IPC	į		
	EARCHED			<u> </u>		
	entation searched (classification system followed	by classification sym	ibols)			
U.S. : 435/6	5, 7.1, 69.1, 71.2, 240.2; 530/350, 388.15; 514	/44; 536/23.5				
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched						
Electronic data ba	ase consulted during the international search (nar	ne of data base and,	where practicable	, search terms used)		
	arches - MasPar; APS and STN (Medline and ; Apoptosis and DNA and protein and cell		Terms used: Prog	grammed Cell Death;		
C. DOCUME	NTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT					
Category* (Citation of document, with indication, where app	propriate, of the relev	ant passages	Relevant to claim No.		
Y Cell, Volume 74, issued 10 September 1993, Tartaglia et al., " A Novel Domain within the 55kd TNF Receptor Signals Cell Death". Pages 845-850. Especially see page 846, fig. 1, and page 847-48, Table 1 and fig. 3.						
al.	Hubbard et main of the sequence	1-15				
X Further do	cuments are listed in the continuation of Box C.	See pater	nt family annex.			
Special ca	ategories of cited documents:			ternational filing date or priority ration but cited to understand the		
	defining the general state of the art which is not considered to particular relevance	principle or th	seory underlying the in-	vention		
	cument published on or after the international filing date	considered no	vel or cannot be consid	he claimed invention cannot be ered to involve an inventive step		
cited to	t which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is establish the publication date of another citation or other		ument is taken alone particular relevance: ti	he claimed invention cannot be		
•	nson (as specified) t referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other	considered to combined with	involve an inventive	e step when the document is ch documents, such combination		
	P document published prior to the international filing date but later than *g.* document member of the same patent family the priority date claimed					
Date of the actua	al completion of the international search	Date of mailing of t		earch report		
24 JUNE 1996		15 JUL	1996			
Commissioner of Box PCT	ng address of the ISA/US f Patents and Trademarks	Authorized officer TEKCHAND SA	AIDHA SON			
Washington, D.C. 20231 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230 Telephone No. (703) 308-0196						

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US96/05386

C (Continua	tion). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	THE JOURNAL OF BIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY. Vol. 270, No. 1, issued 06 January 1995, Boldin et al., "Self-association of the 'Death Domains' of the p55 Tumor Necrosis Factor (TNF) Receptor and Fas/APO1 Prompts Signaling for TNF and Fas/APO1 Effects. Especially see Table 1.	1-15
X Y	US 5,360,893 A (G.P. Owens et al.) 01 November 1994, columns 27-28, claims 1 & 2; column 2, lines 5-44.	11 20-27
Y	Science, Vol. 245, issued 21 July 1989, Trauth et al., "Monoclonal Antibody-Mediated Tumor Regression by Induction of Apoptosis", pages 301-305.	16-19
Y, P	US 5,500,432 A (K.C. NICOLAOU et al.) 19 March 1996. See columns 10-12, claims 1-4.	20-26
Х, Р	Cell, Vol. 81, issued 19 May 1995, Stanger et al., "RIP: A Novel Protein containing a Death Domain that interacts with Fas/APO-1 (CD95) in yeast and causes Cell Death.	1-27
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US96/05386

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER: IPC (6):				
C12Q 1/68; G01N 33/35; C12P 21/04, 21/06; C12N 5/00; C07K 1/00, 16/00; A01N 43/04; C07H 21/04				
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